

# RESULTS OF STUDENT'S SURVEYS IN SIMILAR COURSES GIVEN IN DIFFERENT CENTERS OF THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MADRID

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## Abstract

We present and analyze the results of surveys conducted in recent years with students from two related subjects, but taught in different centers of the University of Madrid. These surveys are part of the objectives of various projects of educational innovation, and applied through the platform *Moodle*.

The survey template is shown, with the main points, corresponding to a custom survey, the time and difficulty experienced by the students, staff assessment and learning. The results provide important data in order to improve the methodologies used and the achievement of the goals set by teachers, in implementing the new criteria for adaptation to the European Space on Higher Education.

These results have provided important data in order to improve the methodologies used and the achievement of the goals set by teachers, focused on the implementation of the new criteria for adaptation to the European Higher Education. The results have been analyzed and presented comparatively for each subject and year, clearly noting an improvement in the evaluation among consecutive years.

Keywords: Surveys, educational innovation, *Moodle*.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Two subjects of similar topics were taught in two different Centers and Degrees of the UPM (Plants of Agro Food Interest, PAI, in Agronomy Engineering, and Industrial Use of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, IUPAM, from Forest Engineering) and have been assessed for results. The first one, PAI, was taught in classroom in the Degree of Agronomy Engineering, and the other one, IUMAP, was taught completely online as a free choice online course in the UPM. The same survey has been given to the students, and the results have been compared.

## 2 THE SURVEY

The survey consisted in 10 questions about the course contents, plus 4 questions about the learning assessment and 4 more of general assessment of the course, as shown below. The survey has been done by students for 5 years. We show the results of the course 2011 – 2012.

1. What are you studying?				
2. Comparing with the rest of the courses you attended this semester, please indicate: The level of difficulty for this course:				
a) Easy	b) The same	c) Difficult		
3. Please indicate the level of difficulty for this course:				
Very easy	1	2	3	Very difficult
4. The organization of the course and work helped me to notice the advantage and importance of what I had to learn for this course:				
Not at all	1	2	3	A lot
5. The organization of this course helped me to learn something and not only to pass the exam:				
Not at all	1	2	3	A lot

6. Please indicate which parts of the course you think were the most interesting:

Module I	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Module II	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Module III	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Module IV	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Module V	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Module VI	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Module VII	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting

7. Did you follow the course regularly?

I didn't follow the course at all

I followed less than a half of this course

I followed a half of this course

I followed more than a half of this course

I followed the entire course

8. Please indicate the level of usage of the materials for this course:

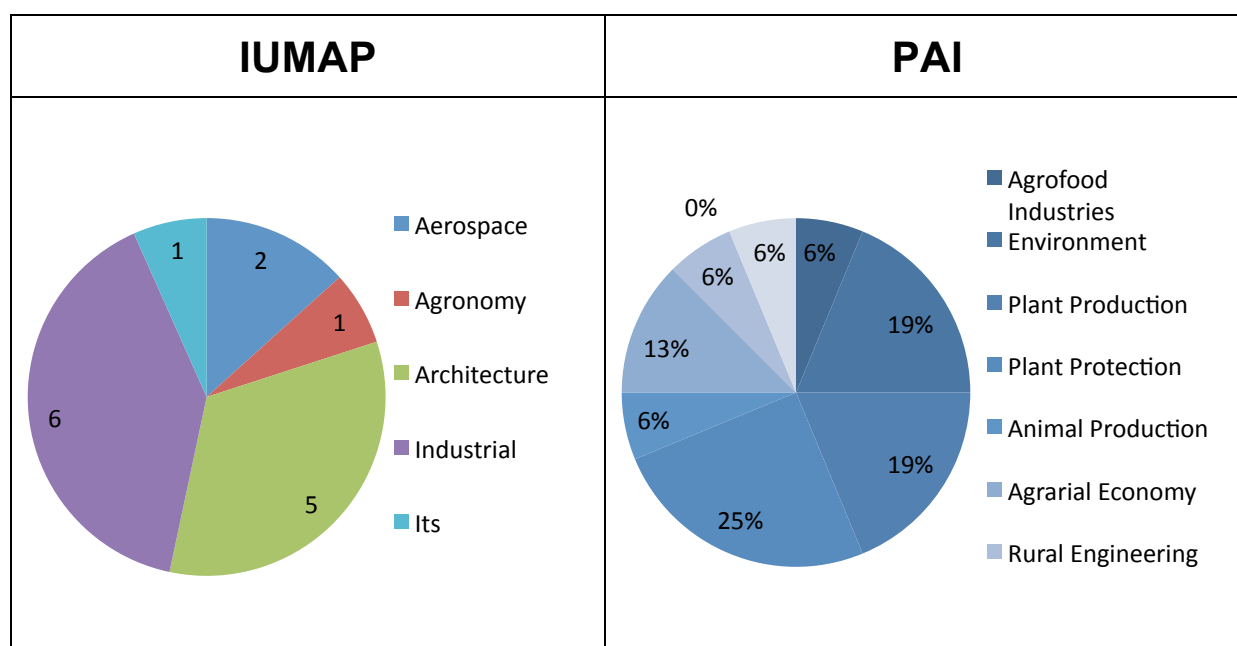
Texts	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
PPTs	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting
Other sources	Not at all	1	2	3	Very interesting

9. The time estimated for the course was adequate.

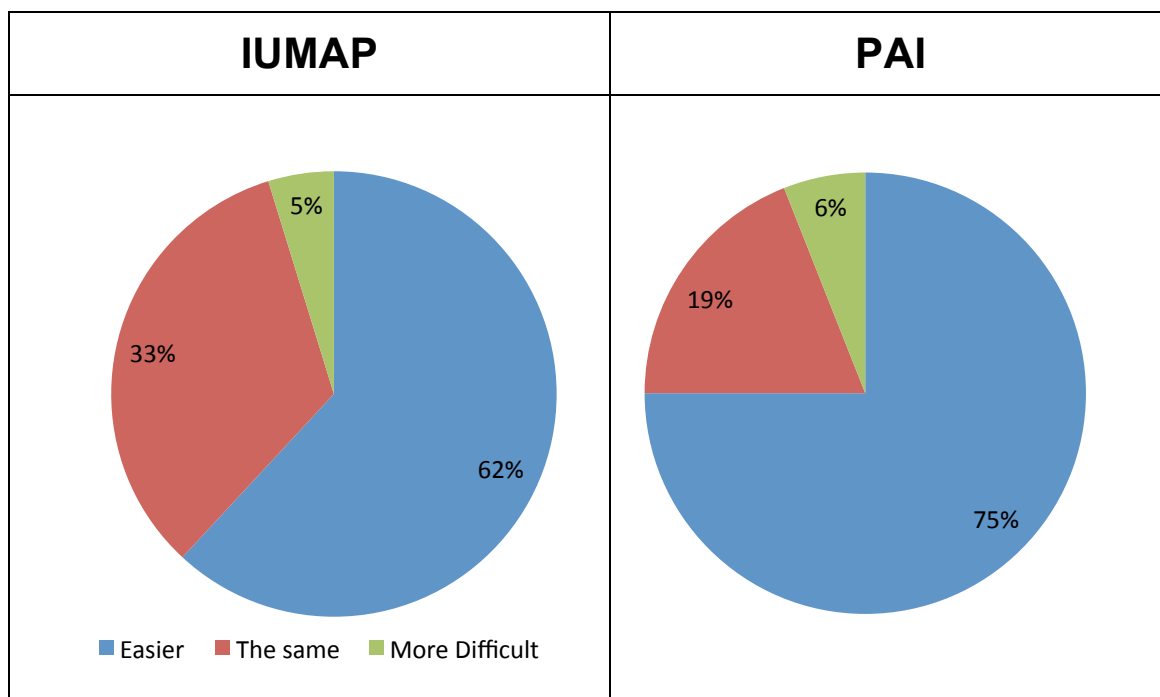
10. Please feel free to take a few minutes and to leave any observations, positive or negative, regarding your own personal experience with this course. I am very much interested to hear your opinion, which could become helpful in improving the quality of my teaching in the future. Thank you very much for your collaboration and your help!

### 3 RESULTS

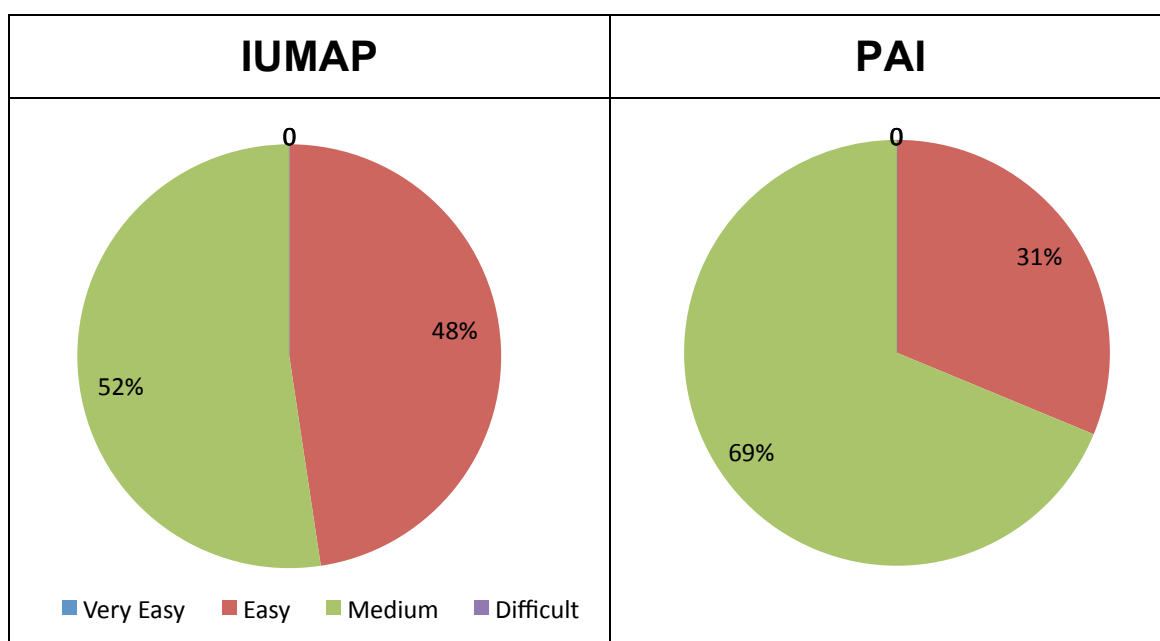
1. What are you studying? Results are shown in % of students



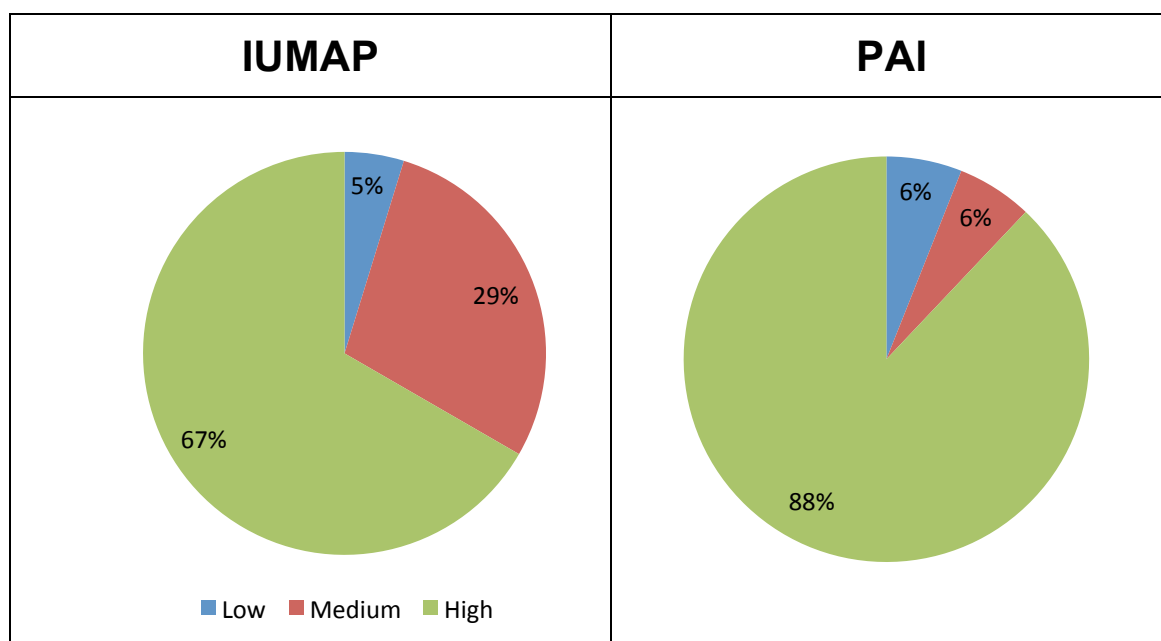
2. Please indicate the level of difficulty for this course, compared with the rest of the courses you attended this semester.



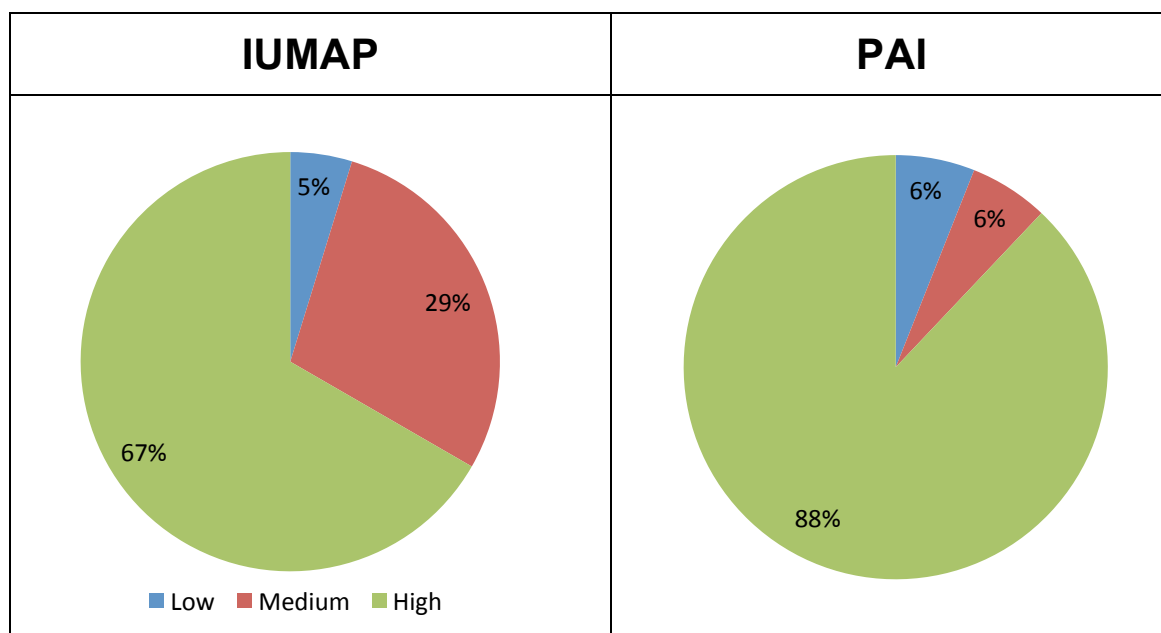
3. Please indicate the level of difficulty for this course itself.



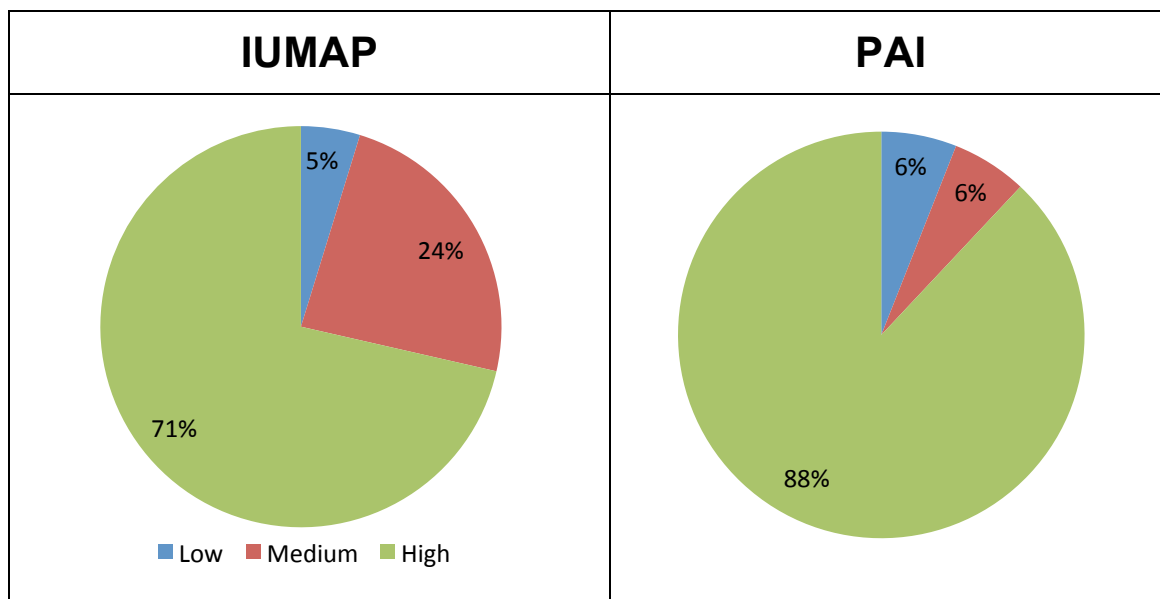
4. Has the course motivated your interest in the subject?



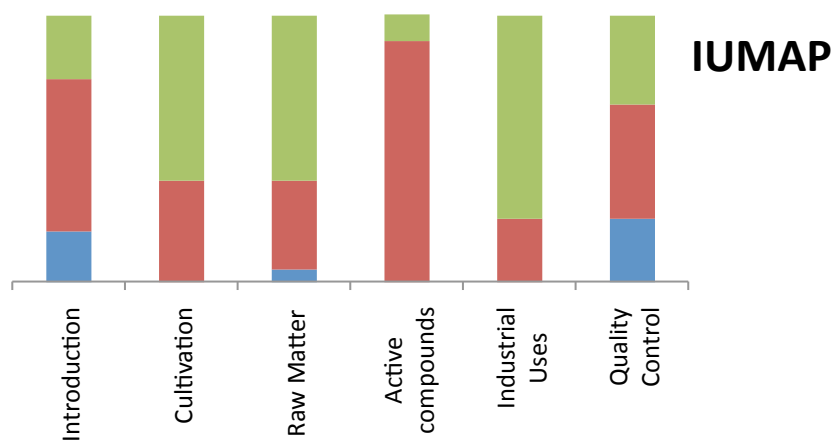
5. Did the organization of the course help you to notice the advantage and importance of what you had to learn for this course?

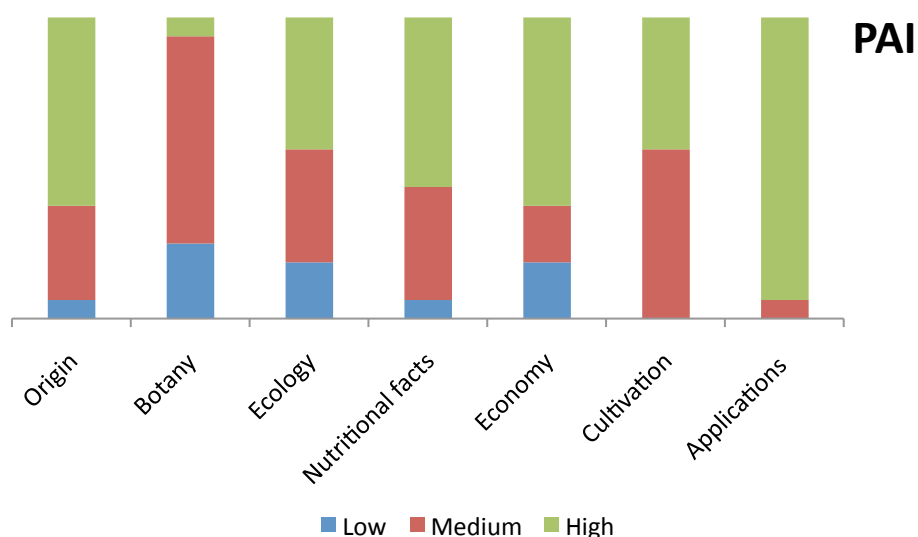


6. Did the organization of this course help you to learn something and not only to pass the exam?

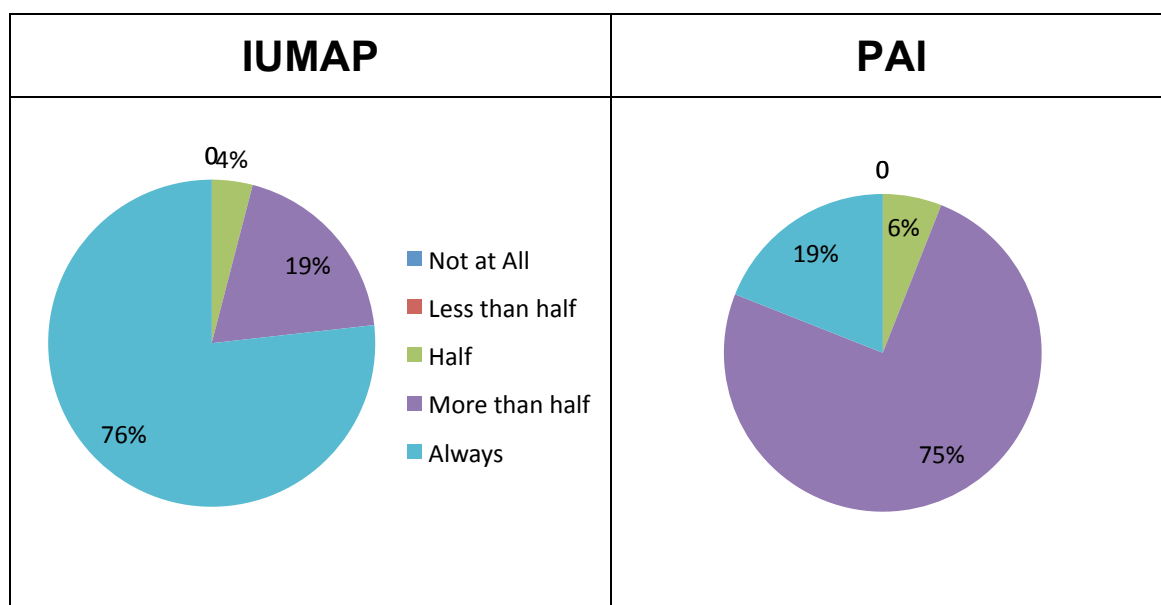


7. Please indicate which parts of the course you think were the most interesting





8. Did you follow the course regularly?



9. The time given for the course was enough. In this question, in both subjects, the answer was YES in all cases (100%).

10.OPINIONS. The opinions given by the students are transcript literally.

Facing the exams I do not understand the interest in memorizing as much data point, not so farfetched to understand the questions, it is to learn a broad overview of medicinal plants and not to retain data and very specific anecdotal.

The timing of the course is perfect. One item a week to read, understand and manage information is good to really learn it properly. Furthermore, the possibility of an exam before final exams is appreciated. Moreover, few professors have both in terms of content uploaded to Moodle information. It's nice to get one of these PDFs and read quietly. They are very well written. In any case congratulations for the course.

I enjoyed following it and learning. I have recommended it to all my classmates.

I would recommend this course because I have seen and learned curious questions not expected. I found the tests easy once you've read the agenda as the questions have always been very clear and specific (I consider that tests help a lot to pass). Personally I have had problems in the final exam, but my fault entirely. I've been distracted with other subjects and my work and I missed the date. I also

feel that the teacher has been involved at all times. I'm doing another virtual course and the opposite happens: the teacher serves no doubts, do not give us our notes or just I cannot be seen as support. To me, it has been very useful to think that I could send an e-mail to the teacher and the same day or the next day I had the answer to my question very clearly.

Honestly, the subject is well directed. Texts (PDFs) are very well written and well understood. From my point of view you would not have to change / improve anything. The workload is not much and can combine with other subjects. Furthermore, although the work of 20 pages seemed too much, it was not, I just had to put forward, dedication. Being a subject "on-line", congratulations on the attention paid to the students, and I know of other cases where the subjects 'distance' have been disastrous.

It was a curious subject didactics. Depending on the degree of students it may seem more or less interesting.

Personally I think it was a very interesting course and has satisfied even improved expectations I had about it. I looked further on the subject of medicinal plants and there is no subject in my career to talk about this topic i was very interested, so I have to thank you for giving me the opportunity to learn more about it. Now I am working in an export company called "Amorós nature", I'm working in the laboratory doing quality analysis and identification of compounds and plants, and I can apply some of the concepts.

The course has a good approach, it is very easy for the materials you have, but there is little time. I think that a more practical course would be better applied. On the other hand, I've learned things I hope they give me a base because it has aroused interest in the subjects studied.

The truth is I have no complaints whatsoever, is an interesting course, affordable and if you read the agenda with a little care you can learn things, in my case, are unknown and interesting. As all such subjects, I highly recommend it in relation to effort and learning.

It is a very interesting subject. Really recommended for those who not only seek to learn math formulas. Very fun and entertaining.

Actually I have no contribution for improvement, as I believe that the subject is fairly well structured information and the focus of the course is clear. And unlike in other subjects of Moodle, the teacher was attentive and outstanding resources and doubts that may arise, so I'm happy to have completed this course.

The general subject I found very interesting, it's true that my degree did not add anything in terms of expanding my professional knowledge, but from the beginning I got very curious and I really liked it, the way expose the issues, work, and above all that is virtual, because I count on short and thus one can organize whatever.

Throughout the course, the notes in PDF and material you provided, I found it very helpful for carrying out the questionnaires. These notes, were very interesting to me time to study because they are concrete, goes straight to the concepts to be taught, without giving many rodeos. Thus the course awakened my interest in this subject. The questionnaires covered the whole subject, so you forced to read your material provided. Being unlimited performance time allowed it more calmly and thus to have the option to review it carefully. Overall, I liked the organization and development of this subject in all respects. The work had to hand it seemed a good idea because when we were forced to browse develop scientific articles and, in my case, find out more about it that it was in such work. Congratulations on the subject.

In these lines for comments I wanted to express my great satisfaction that has been to take this course. I must say that when I enrolled it I did not really believe what I expected, but after the course went on each day I have rejoiced over having chosen it. I found it very productive and a subject that I liked. The organization of the course was perfect, because the teacher has met the terms originally proposed. I needed little help from the teacher but the times I've done your answer was quick and willing to help. Regarding the structure of the subject has been great. All subjects understood each other perfectly without any difficulty and summaries of Power Point were very neat and tidy, serving as support to improve comprehension. Regarding the structure of the course are all issues I find important and necessary, but there are issues like the heaviest item 4, yet it seems necessary to study. No matter if the legislation has not been entered in test and examination because coming from the start or do not have time, but I think this issue should not come as a subject since being the subject of free choice I think should prevail over knowledge "lighter" one a "very verbose" but do not the importance of this issue. After reading these lines may seem "rally" (believe me it is not, because if

I had not liked subject would have been as critical but in reverse) but I think it is unacceptable to thank and show enthusiasm awakened in my this subject, because when you do a good job (in my opinion) and I recognize, like and produces the satisfaction of accomplishment. Finally do not think anything should change the shape of the subject, only the content in case the information is outdated, but that's not up to me. Kind regards.

Not that I do not want to say anything, but I just do not think I can improve in any subject, because (in my point of view everything was perfect).

The established times to study the agenda and make the test was more than enough. The clarity of the texts attached was perfect, albeit with a typo, but forgettable, anyone can get confused!! It also offered the opportunity to repeat test, we perform them corrected nothing ... I do not know, honestly I cannot ask for more. In short, I finished very happy with the course, and as I said before recommending it to all my friends, for being an interesting subject, in which we learn new things and most importantly, useful things. (In my life had stepped a herbalist and the other day I went for the first time).

Personally I liked the teaching of this subject. Methodology I really like, and I thank my doing work constant throughout the course before you make a final review of all content. The tests were made in a manner that was not very difficult and the work helps a lot to learn concepts on your own. Therefore, I liked the subject and I have raised some interest, and all that at first I thought this course would not be so...

From my point of view has been a subject easy to follow, and that all that was needed so that it can conduct was in our hands and we doubt that the answer came quickly, so by the delighted attention and resources . As for the issues, although there were some more boring, everyone has been helpful to learn more about PAM.

I really liked the subject because the aromatic and medicinal plants interest me a lot. I consider it an easier course than the degree, which is already well because elective credits have (or should) be easier. Even so, I think the final exam questions could be made from slightly different from the questionnaires throughout the course. I learned a lot and it motivated me and I recommend the course to all students interested in the subject.

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